



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### FWS SELECTS RIVER BASIN CHIEF TO HEAD TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Promotion of James T. McBroom, chief of the Branch of River Basin Studies, to the position of chief, Division of Technical Services of the Fish and Wildlife Service, was announced today by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ross Leffler. Mr. McBroom assumes his new duties July 5. He replaces Robert M. Rutherford who retires July 24.

Mr. McBroom has been with the Department since July 1939, with the exception of three years as naval lieutenant in World War II. His experience includes work with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Reclamation, as special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and the Fish and Wildlife Service as head of river basin studies. His new duties include general supervision over the Federal aid to States in fish and wildlife, river basin studies, engineering, and realty functions of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Mr. McBroom was first stationed at Albuquerque, New Mexico, with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In 1941 he transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation as junior economic geographer and was attached to Columbia River development projects. Shortly after his return from military service, he became, successively, assistant to the project development supervisor and later chief of the Program and Reports Division in the northwest regional office of the Bureau of Reclamation.

He was transferred to Washington, D. C., in 1950, as special assistant to an Assistant Secretary of the Interior. In November 1951, he became chief of program review and coordination, Division of Water and Power, Department of the Interior. In February of 1953, he transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Service as head of the river basin studies program.

Mr. McBroom is a former student of Washington State College. He secured his A.B. degree in geography from the University of Chicago in June 1936. In 1939, he received his A.M. degree from the same school. In addition to geography, his formal education included economics and journalism. He was born in Spokane, Washington, January 3, 1914.

Mr. Rutherford joined the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1926 and served chiefly as a land valuation engineer on the national wildlife refuge acquisition program until 1938, when he became assistant chief to the newly organized Federal Aid Branch. He was chief of that branch from 1942 to 1957, when he was promoted to chief of the Division of Technical Services, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. He was born in Newark, California, April 8, 1900, and received his B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of California in 1925. He spent some years as logger and timber cruiser in the California forests before taking up wildlife work.

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